

**In the Claims:**

1. (Previously presented) An isolated polypeptide that induces cell death *in vitro*, consisting of SEQ ID NO: 8.
2. (Previously presented) A composition comprising an isolated polypeptide as of claim 1 and a carrier.
3. - 12 (Cancelled)
13. (Withdrawn) An *in vitro*-method for screening a compound to determine its utility for reducing cell death, the method comprising:
  - (a) contacting a cell which expresses a protein consisting essentially of SEQ ID NO: 8 with the test compound; and
  - (b) determining the level of cell death relative to the level caused by SEQ ID NO: 8 alone, wherein a decrease in cell death activity identifies a compound that reduces cell death.
14. - 22. (Cancelled)
23. (Withdrawn) A method of generating an antibody, comprising:
  - (a) introducing an isolated polypeptide of claim 1 into an immunocompetent animal in an amount sufficient to induce an immune response; and
  - (b) recovering from serum of the immunocompetent animal antibodies generated in response to the polypeptide of step (a) and that bind therewith.
- 24.-25. (Cancelled)
26. (Previously presented) An isolated polypeptide that induces cell death *in vitro* comprising SEQ ID NO: 8.

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27. (Previously presented) A composition comprising an isolated polypeptide as of claim 26 and a carrier.

28. (Cancelled)

29. (Withdrawn) A method for inducing cell death *in vitro*, the method comprising contacting the cell with an isolated polypeptide according to claim 26 in a sufficient amount to effect an increase in cell death.

30. (Withdrawn) A method of generating an antibody, comprising:

(a) introducing an isolated polypeptide of claim 26 into an immunocompetent animal in an amount sufficient to induce an immune response; and

(b) recovering from serum of the immunocompetent animal antibodies generated in response to the polypeptide of step (a) and that bind therewith.

31. (Withdrawn) An *in vitro* method for screening a test compound to determine its utility for reducing cell death, the method comprising:

(a) contacting a cell which expresses the polypeptide of claim 26 with the test compound; and

(b) determining the level of cell death relative to the level caused by SEQ ID NO: 8 alone, wherein a decrease in cell death identifies a compound that does not induce cell death.

32.-33. (Cancelled)